10th August 1956]

Advanced Technological Engineering Institute

* 23 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the State Government have received any communication with regard to the opening of an Advanced Technological Engineering Institute in the State during the year 1955–56; and

(b) if so, the steps taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to Legislative Assembly Question No. 3542 (D) answered on 4th April 1956. The Southern Regional Committee of the All-India Council for Technical Education has since agreed to locate the Higher Technological Institute at Madras. Arrangements are being made to locate the Institute at Madras.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: May I know whether there was a dispute between this Government and the Central Government with regard to the surrender of Guindy Engineering College and, if so, how it was finally settled?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I won't call it a dispute. The question was how best to start the Institute quickly. A suggestion was made that the Guindy Engineering College might be handed over to the Centre so that it might form the nucleus around which the Higher Technological Institute could be built. Originally, we agreed to that. Then, there was some discussion regarding the allocations to the degree course. Here, we are now having seats to the extent of 100 students every year. We wanted that number to be kept up and that the Government of Madras should be allowed to select students for the one hundred seats and there was some difference of opinion about that. So, we expressed the opinion that it might not be possible to hand over the Guindy Engineering College. But, after reconsideration, we finally agreed to hand over the Guindy buildings. But I am glad to inform the hon. Member that the decision is that it is not necessary to have the Guindy College for the purpose. Independent of that, they (the Government of India) were prepared to locate the Higher Technological Institute at Madras.

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN: Is it a fact that in the matter of the location of the Advanced Technological College any part of the Raj Bhavan grounds was asked for and there was some trouble about it?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: For the purpose of location of the Higher Technological Institute, we have to make available to the Government of India land free of cost. We are just now considering which land will be suitable for this purpose and one of the sites in view is a portion of the Raj Bhavan compound which has an extent of 1,200 acres.